

CLAIMS

1. A verification device for a pipette with a piston for aspirating then dispensing, using a shaft, a determined volume of liquid, characterized in that it includes:
 - first means for supplying a measurement of the displaced volume, comparing this measurement to a desired value and generating an indication of the difference between the measured volume and said desired value; and
 - second means, responding to said first means, for delivering an information relating to said indication.
- 10 2. A verification device according to claim 1, characterized in that said first means includes:
 - a sensor capable of supplying a pressure measurement at two points of the shaft; and
 - 15 - a microprocessor programmed to calculate, from said measurement, the volume displaced in the shaft, to verify that this volume corresponds to the volume of the desired value and generate an indication relating to this verification.
- 20 3. A verification device according to claim 2, characterized in that said sensor is capable of supplying, in addition, a temperature measurement in the shaft.
- 25 4. A verification device according to claim 1, characterized in that said second means includes a display.
5. A verification device according to any of claims 1 and 4, characterized in that said second means includes an acoustic alarm.
- 30 6. A verification device according to any of claims 2, 4 and 5, characterized in that said second means includes a transceiver capable of making its microprocessor communicate with a control and recording unit.

7. A verification device according to claim 6, characterized in that said microprocessor is programmed to store instructions which are sent thereto by said unit.
- 5 8. A verification device according to claim 7, characterized in that said microprocessor is programmed such that its transceiver sends to said unit an item of information concerning the difference between the measured volume and said desired value.
- 10 9. A verification device according to claim 2, intended for a pipette whose piston is driven by an actuator, characterized in that said microprocessor is programmed to control said actuator such that the aspirated volume corresponds to the desired value.
- 15 10. A verification device according to any of claims 1 to 9, characterized in that it forms a module that can be fitted to an existing pipette.
- 20 11. A pipette with a piston for aspirating then dispensing, using a shaft, a determined volume of liquid, characterized in that it includes a verification device as defined in any of claims 1 to 10.
- 25 12. A control and recording unit for managing a plurality of pipettes fitted with a verification device as defined in claim 8, characterized in that it includes a computer and a transceiver capable of making said computer communicate with the transceiver of each of said pipettes.
13. A control and recording unit according to claim 12, characterized in that said computer is programmed such that the following operations are carried out:
 - 30 - sending the protocol of the pipetting operations to be carried out to each pipette;
 - recording the performance of the pipette; and
 - recording the operator's performance.

14. A control and recording unit according to claim 13, characterized in that said computer is programmed so as to send the number and volume of deposits to be carried out by each pipette and the accepted tolerances.
- 5 15. A control and recording unit according to any of claims 13 and 14, characterized in that said computer is programmed so as to guide the operator during a series of pipetting operations.